

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)

Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535

Website: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>

Sunday, August 9, 2015 – 10th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – Afterfeast of the Transfiguration. Glorification of Venerable Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America (1970)

Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Rector [*On Leave of Absence*]

Fr. Archimandrite Christopher Grecu, Interim Rector

Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 7 – Afterfeast of Transfiguration)

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, / revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. / Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, / through the prayers of the Theotokos!// O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

Troparion (Tone 7 – Saint Herman)

O joyful North Star of the Church of Christ, / guiding all men to the heavenly Kingdom; / teacher and apostle of the True Faith; / intercessor and defender of the oppressed; / adornment of the Orthodox Church in America: / blessed Father Herman of Alaska, / pray to our Lord Jesus Christ // for the salvation of our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 1)

By As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 3 – Saint Herman)

The eternal light of Christ our Savior / guided thee, O blessed Father Herman, / on thine evangelical journey to America / to proclaim the Gospel

of peace. / Now as thou standest before the throne of glory; / intercede for thy land and its people:// peace for the world and salvation for our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 7 – Afterfeast of Transfiguration)

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy Disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they should behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world // that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Another Prokeimenon (Saints) (Tone 7)

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now. I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

v. God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me.
Alleluia (3x's)

v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:14-23

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from

that very hour. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting. Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up. And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing in Tone 4:

Magnify, O my soul, / the Lord was transfigured on Mount Tabor! / Thy childbearing was without corruption; / God came forth from thy body clothed in flesh, and appeared on earth and dwelt among men. // Therefore we magnify thee, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymns:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
O Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy countenance, and will exult in Thy name forever.
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia (3x's)

[Note: The readings for St. Herman are as follows: Epistle - Galatians 5:22-6:2 and Gospel - Luke 6:17-23]

Announcements

Contact information for anyone in need of a priest or if wanting to attend an OCA parish for Holy Day or Feast Day services held during the week will now be posted up on the bulletin boards!

No Vespers served during the summer. Vespers will not be served on Saturdays or during the weekday the day before a feast day during the summer months (June 1 to August 31) **EXCEPT** on August 14 for Dormition of Most Holy Lady Theotokos (See "Weekly Schedule" in today's bulletin)

Bible Study this Tuesday (August 11) has been Cancelled! The Bible Study Group will discuss during coffee hour after Liturgy today when to reschedule this Bible Study class.

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Sign up sheets for Coffee Hour, Cleaning and Epistle & Hours Reading. Sign up sheets for the above items are posted on the bulletin board in the church basement. The sheets have been pretty bare over the past few weeks. Please be considerate and volunteer to assist with some of the parish responsibilities. Your time is very much appreciated!

Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon. In addition to our general collection, the parish takes a special collection each week to fund certain parish projects. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. The special collections are as follows:

- First Sunday of every month – Kitchen Fund Project
- Second Sunday of every month – Youth Fund
- Third Sunday of every month - Restoration/Maintenance Fund
- Fourth Sunday of every month – Charity Giving

Note: if there is a Fifth Sunday during a month, the special collection is earmarked for the Kitchen Fund Project, unless otherwise noted and stated by the Parish Council.

Cash Flow Activity (July/August)

	<u>Week of July 27 to Aug 2</u>	<u>July Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	26	27 (average)
Funds In:	\$1,041.00	\$4,805.00
Funds Out:	\$2,204.50	\$7,220.54
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$1,163.50)	(\$2,415.54)

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see David Pellack to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card is an additional fundraising project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

FOCUS Event – Friday, August 14 – 8am to 3pm: FOCUS North America is looking for volunteers to assist them with their 2015 Education Day event at the School of the Future located at 4021 Parkside Avenue. Please see their flyers posted on the bulletin boards both in the back of the church and in the church basement.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Rosalie Frederico, Christine & Jon Bava, Cynthia & Alex Lourido, and Mary Kaczmar offered by M/M Herbert.

Grace Corba offered by Nina Patterson

Cantrell Family offered by Pellack Family

Family and Parishioners offered by Barbara Andrews

Family and Friends offered by M/M Rick LeRoy

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Stephen Spack, David O'Shura, Mary Basala Slivka, Ella Drozdak, Mat. Mary Federonko, Helen Hetherington, Yolanda Kocloek, John O'Shura, and Stephen Slivka, offered by M/M Herbert.

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Father Matthew Cantrell and the Cantrell Family; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Grace Corba; Father Vincent Saverino; Father John Bohush and the parishioners of Saint Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church in Philadelphia.

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Welcome to all of our visitors & guest worshipping with us today.

A warm welcome to all of our visitors and guest who have joined us today in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

Scheduling Confession: If you wish to receive confession during the summer, please speak with Father Christopher to discuss scheduling a time for confession on a Sunday well before the Divine Liturgy. Please understand the priest needs to prepare that morning the sacraments and prayers before Divine Liturgy. He may limit the number of people scheduled to hear confessions that Sunday morning.

Announcements (cont.)

The **Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood** will be holding the following special Vesper services during the month of August, in conjunction with the Assumption/Dormition Fast, and the Feast of the Assumption; Paraklesis Services (Services of Supplication) to the Mother of God at **4PM on the following Sundays** remaining in August at the following locations:

- Aug 9 – St Michael’s Russian Orthodox Church – 335 Fairmount Ave – Philadelphia, PA 19123. Church Phone: 215-627-6148

- Aug 16 – St Stephen’s Orthodox Church – 8598 Verree Rd – Philadelphia, PA 19111.

Present will be the Miracle Working Icon of St Anna.

- Aug 23 – St Andrew’s Russian Orthodox Church – 707 N 5th St (Near the corner of 5th St & Fairmount Ave) - Philadelphia, PA 19123

The Pan Orthodox Choir will be singing at these services.



Glorification of the Venerable Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America [August 9th]

Today, the Church celebrates the 45th Anniversary of the Glorification of the Venerable Herman of Alaska. Due to the length and space provided in the bulletin, the following is an excerpt of the life of Saint Herman.

FATHER HERMAN’S WAY OF LIFE

Father Herman himself spaded the garden, planted potatoes and cabbage and various vegetables in it. For winter, he preserved mushrooms, salting or drying them. The salt was obtained by him from ocean water. It is said that a wicker

basket in which the Elder carried seaweed from the shore, was so large that it was difficult for one person to carry. The seaweed was used for fertilizing the soil. But to the astonishment of all, Father Herman carried a basket filled with seaweed for a long distance without any help at all. By chance his disciple, Gerasim, saw him one winter night carrying a large log which normally would be carried by four men; and he was bare footed. Thus worked the Elder, and everything that he acquired as a result of his immeasurable labors was used for the feeding and clothing of orphans and also for books for his students.

[...continue on the last page...]

Weekly Schedule and Calendar of Events

- Today: August 9 – Philadelphia Clergy Brotherhood Vespers at St Michael’s Russian Orthodox Church – 335 Fairmount Ave – Philadelphia, PA – 4:00PM
- Tuesday: August 11 – Bible Study – **CANCELLED!**
[Rescheduling date to be discussed during coffee hour today]
- Friday: August 14 – FOCUS Group Education Day Event – 8am to 3pm.
- Friday: August 14 - **VESPERS – 6:30PM** – The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary
- Saturday: August 15 – **DIVINE LITURGY – 10:00AM** – The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary (Feast Day of our Parish)
- Saturday: Great Vespers – **There will be no Vespers served during the summer (June 1 to August 31).**
- Sunday: August 16 – Afterfeast of the Dormition. Translation of the Image “Not-Made-By-Hands” of our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constantinople.
Reading of Hours – 9:40am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & Coffee Hour follow the Divine Liturgy
- Sunday: August 16 – Philadelphia Clergy Brotherhood Vespers at St Stephen’s Orthodox Church – 8598 Verree Rd – Philadelphia, PA – 4:00PM – The Miracle-working icon of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, will be present for veneration during the service.
- August 29: The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John

[...St Herman's life continued from the previous page...]

His clothes were the same for winter as for summer. He did not wear a shirt; instead he wore a smock of deer skin, which he did not take off for several years at a time, nor did he change it, so that the fur in it was completely worn away, and the leather became glossy. Then there were his boots or shoes, cassock (podrasnik), an ancient and faded out cassock (riasa) full of patchwork, and his headdress (klobuk). He went everywhere in these clothes, and at all times; in the rain, in snowstorms, and during the coldest freezing weather. In this, Father Herman followed the example of many Eastern Ascetic Fathers and Monks who showed the greatest concern for the welfare and needs of others. Yet, they themselves wore the oldest possible clothes to show their great humility before God, and their contempt for worldly things.

A small bench covered with a time-worn deerskin served as Father Herman's bed. He used two bricks for a pillow; these were hidden from visitors by a skin or a shirt. There was no blanket. Instead, he covered himself with a wooden board which lay on the stove. This board Father Herman, himself called his blanket, and he willed that it be used to cover his remains; it was as long as he was tall. "During my stay in the cell of Father Herman," writes the creole Constantine Larionov, "I, a sinner, sat on his 'blanket'-and I consider this the acme of my fortune!" ('creole' is the name by which the Russians referred to the children of mixed marriages of native Indians of Alaska, Eskimo and Aleuts with Russians.)

On the occasions when Father Herman was the guest of administrators of the American Company and in the course of their soul-saving talks he sat up with them until midnight. He never spent the night with them, but regardless of the weather he always returned to his hermitage. If for some extraordinary reason it was necessary for him to spend the night away from his cell, then in the morning the bed which had been prepared for him would be found untouched; the Elder not having slept at all. The same was true in his hermitage where having spent the night in talks, he never rested.

The Elder ate very little. As a guest, he scarcely tasted the food, and remained without dinner. In his cell his dinner consisted of a very small portion of a small fish or some vegetables.

His body, emaciated as a result of his labors, his vigils, and fasting, was crushed by chains which weighed about sixteen pounds. These chains are kept to this day in the chapel.

Telling of these deeds of Father Herman, his disciple, the Aleut Ignaty Aligyaga, added, "Yes, Apa led a very hard life, and no one can imitate his life!" (Apa, Aleutian word means Elder or grandfather, and it is a name indicative of the great affection in which he was held).

Our writing of the incidents in the life of the Elder deal, so to speak, with the external aspects of his labor. "His most important works," says the Bishop Peter, "were his exercises in spiritual endeavor in his isolated cell where no one saw him, but outside the cell they heard him singing and celebrating services to God according to the monastic rule." This witness of the Bishop is supported by the following answers of Father Herman, himself, "How do you manage to live alone in the forest, Father Herman? Don't you ever become lonesome?" He answered, "No I am not there alone! God is here, as God is everywhere. The Holy Angels are there. With whom is it better to talk, with people, or with Angels? Most certainly with Angels."